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1. Prior to 19[illegible], Michael Rolle was Professor of Bacteriology at the Institute of Animal Bacteriology, University of Latvia; in addition, he worked at the Second City Hospital, Infectious Disease Section, Riga, as well as with me at the Institute of Serotherapy. The Institute of Bacteriology was principally concerned with research on infectious mastitis in dairy cows; infectious abortion in cattle and mares; serology of glanders. In connection with infectious abortion, a bacillus was discovered which was responsible for abortion in mares. This Institute also developed a new vaccine against swine erysipelas, adsorption aluminum hydroxide. Professor Rolle is now located at Zaubzerstrasse No 1, Munich 8, Germany, where he is a professor at the Veterinary High School.

2. In 1938, the State Bacteriological Laboratory was organized in Riga, under the directorship of Doctor Jacob Bishmanis, who is now in Vancouver, Canada. Bishmanis was formerly assistant to Professor Rolle, whom he admired and worked with closely. This independent State Laboratory was concerned with research in all human infectious diseases, typhoid and diphtheria especially.

3. At the same time, a Central Veterinary Bacteriology Laboratory was organized in Riga, under the Ministry of Agriculture; its director was Doctor Peter Osols, who is now in Australia. This laboratory investigated all infectious diseases in animals, swine erysipelas especially. This laboratory exerted no control whatsoever over the University of Latvia's academic activities; to the contrary, it cooperated very nicely with the University, sponsoring special research projects with funds provided for this purpose; this was in part due to the respect Osols had for his former teacher, Professor Rolle.

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4. At the time the USSR took over Latvia, it moved a large group of Soviet veterinarians into the army stables on the outskirts of Riga, where they were especially concerned with research in glanders problems. They worked separately from the University, but were constantly troubling same for assistance and materials. I feel that Professor Rolle would be far more capable of commenting on the competence of these Soviet veterinarians, as compared to the Latvians, since he was most closely associated with them.

5. At the time I left Riga in September 1944, there was no penicillin being produced in Latvia, or any antibiotics whatsoever, for that matter. Drugs and pharmaceuticals of all kinds were produced in very limited quantities, since the majority of Latvian needs were imported in bulk from Germany. The major importers in Riga were the firms, Medfro, on Keigeliela, owned by Mr Mednis /fnu/, and Mr Fronzkevish /fnu/, and Baltpharma, owned by Mr Baltackmens /fnu/. These importers would package the drugs into pills, ampoules and other processes, which they would then sell to distributors, such as Frobeen on Kalkiela, who would in turn sell to the pharmacies, doctors and retail outlets. Medfro manufactured cat-gut, the only medical supply. The only exception to this three-handed method of operation was that the Institute of Serotherapy was allowed to sell its serums direct to Frobeen or the University of Latvia's own pharmacy.

6. Since medicine was "socialized" in Latvia, drugs required by patients were paid for one-third by the patient himself, one-third by the patient's employer, and one-third by the State.

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